

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	)	I hereby certify that this paper and the
	)	documents are being submitted
<b>Marcus Braun</b>	)	electronically with the US Patent and
	)	Trademark Office on this date:
U.S. Serial No.: 10/815,395	)	
	)	<b>January 8, 2009</b>
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	)	
	)	
Filed: April 1, 2004	)	
	)	/Joseph T. Jasper/
Group Art Unit: 3739	)	Joseph T. Jasper
	)	Registration No.: 50,833
Examiner: Michael F. Peffley	)	Attorney for Applicant

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 8, 2008**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated October 8, 2008, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

**The Status of the Claims** is reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.